

Regional and Local Area Designation/Redesignation Process

Background:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 106 outlines the requirements and process for the determination of regions and local areas including identification, types, initial designation, subsequent designation, process, considerations, designation of recommendation by the State Board, and appeals. Section 106 of WIOA is attached.

Process:

WIOA charges the State with the establishment of regions as well as the designation/redesignation of local areas. The process will be consultative in nature including input from critical system partners at the state and local levels. The Commonwealth will use the structure that has proven successful in carrying out the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board's (KWIB) WorkSmart Kentucky plan.

A Steering Committee will be formed including KWIB members, state partners, local partners, core programs and stakeholders. The Steering Committee will utilize the criteria outlined in Section 106 and other relevant factors to make an initial recommendation on regions and local areas for designation and redesignation.

Once draft recommendations are formed, a meeting with the current Chief Local Elected Officials will be held by the Department of Workforce Investment (DWI). Then a series of three regional convenings in the Eastern, Western and Central part of the Commonwealth will be conducted by DWI. The three convenings will include a Local Elected Officials (LEOs) session, a Local Workforce Investment Board (LWIB) members session and a Stakeholders session open to system customers, staff, partners and stakeholders. In addition, the recommendations will be posted for public comment at the same time.

After the input sessions have been completed by DWI, the Steering Committee will reconvene to consider the input received through the multiple forums and insights from the proposed rules and make any final adjustments to the recommendations. This will include the steps for designation and/or redesignation as well as appeal.

The KWIB will then review the final recommendations and processes for approval. Actions approved by the KWIB will be subject to the appeal process and then go to the Governor for review and final action.

Timeline:

11/17/14	KWIB establishes the process for regional and local designation
12/19/14	Finalize Steering Committee composition
01/23/15	Steering Committee develops draft recommendations
02/07/15	DWI completes local input process on recommendations
02/23/15	Steering Committee considers feedback, proposed rules and finalizes recommendations
02/26/15	KWIB reviews the final recommendations from the Steering Committee subject to the appeals process
03/30/15	Governor issues Executive Order on regions and local area designation/redesignation